Arbitration and Conciliation Act, a new section 43A is proposed to be inserted therein under which arbitrations pending for more than 3 years have to be completed within six months from the commencement of the amending Act and other pending arbitrations within one year. The Bill would *inter alia* resolve the problem of conflicting judgments and speed up disposal of future arbitration cases as well as the arbitration proceedings, applications and appeals which are at present pending in Courts under the existing Act and the repealed Arbitration Act, 1940.

**Reservation for physically handicapped in services**

†*294. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reservation has been given to physically handicapped unemployed persons in Government service;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to non-implementation of the Handicapped Person (Equal Opportunity, protection of Right and Full Participation) Act, 1995, its objective is not being achieved; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure justice to physically handicapped unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a provision for three percent reservation for persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the identified posts as prescribed under Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The percentage of representation of PWDs in such posts in the Ministries/Departments of Government of India and its Public Sector undertakings (PSUs) is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

| Group of Posts | Percentage of representation in Ministries/Deptts | Percentage of representation in PSUs | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| Group A | 6.56 | 2.78 | Information in respect of 28 |
| Group B | 5.43 | 8.54 | Ministries/Deptts. is as on |
| Group C | 6.50 | 5.04 | 1.1.2000 and for the remaining |
| Group D | 6.39 | 6.75 | 38 Ministries/Deptts., is as on 1.1.1999 |
| | | | The information pertaining to PSUs is as on 7.1.2002. |

(c) and (d) The Government has taken several steps to implement the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The following steps have been taken with a view to provide employment to the persons with disabilities:—

(i) 3% reservation for PWDs in Government jobs and PSUs.

(ii) The Ministry of Rural Development provides for reservation of 3% in the Poverty Alleviation Schemes.

(iii) The Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation has a provision of 3% reservation for persons with disabilities under the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana.

(iv) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has established the National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation. It provides financial assistance to PWD at concessional rate of interest.

(v) The Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour runs vocational rehabilitation centres for persons with disabilities.

**Funds for Development of Slums**

*295. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the norms prescribed for the allocation of funds to the State Governments for development of slums;